

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 45 wherein the entity is identified by a controller associated with the controlled space, the controller being configured to unlock a locking mechanism to allow the entity to have access to the controlled space provided the entity is authorized to do so.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 45 further comprising notifying a the user of the addition, removal, return, defective status, or other movement or status of the objects.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 further comprising notifying the user of whether or not the addition, removal, return, defective status, or ~~other~~ movement ~~or~~ ~~status~~ of the objects is authorized or not.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein authorization is determined according to the identity information.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 45 wherein the wireless tracking system includes at least one tag affixed to one or more of the objects and the entity, each tag configured to communicate via a wireless link with the wireless tracking system.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 45 wherein the wireless tracking system includes barcode labels affixed to one or more of the objects.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 45 wherein the wireless tracking system includes video cameras monitoring the controlled space.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 45 wherein the wireless tracking system includes one or more mechanical devices, including at least one device that registers an absence of a weight ~~or of~~ an object in a predefined location.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 45 wherein the addition, removal, return, defective status, or ~~other~~ movement ~~or status~~ of the objects to/from/within the controlled space is entered into the computer system by the entity using an input device.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 45 wherein the server is communicatively coupled to the computer system via one of a wireless communication link, or a network communication link, ~~and a telephone communication link~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 45 wherein a the user accesses information regarding the addition, removal, return, defective status, or ~~other~~ movements ~~or~~ status of objects to/from/within the controlled space associated with the identity information in the server through one or more client computers communicatively coupled to the server through a network.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the network comprises the Internet.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 45 wherein the notification is transmitted to the user via a wireless communication link, or a network communication link, ~~and/or a telephone communication link.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 45 wherein objects are automatically replenished as a result of the notification.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 45 wherein a party is automatically billed as a result of the notification.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium embodying a sequence of instructions executable by a machine to perform a method for automatically associating an identity of an entity with a movement of one or more objects in a controlled-access location, the method comprising:

identifying, at a controller associated with the controlled-access location, an entity attempting to enter the controlled-access location;

determining whether the entity is authorized to enter the controlled-access location based upon the entity identification;

unlocking a locking mechanism to allow the entity to have access to the controlled-access location if the entity is authorized, wherein the entity may add, remove, return, move and/or update status of objects to/from/within the controlled-access location; and

monitoring the location, movement, and status change of the entity, and the objects, ~~and the objects affected by the entity~~ within the controlled-access location using a wireless tracking system, wherein the movement of the objects within/to/from the controlled-access location is entered into a computer system by the entity using an input device.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22 wherein the wireless tracking system includes tags affixed to the entity and the objects configured to communicate via a wireless link with a monitoring device.

25. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22 wherein the wireless tracking system includes tags configured to be activated through contact with a reader device.

26. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22 wherein the wireless tracking system includes barcode labels which are scanned as the objects are added to or removed from the controlled-access location.

27. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22 wherein the wireless tracking system includes video cameras monitoring the controlled-access location.

28. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22 wherein the wireless tracking system includes one or more mechanical devices, including at least one device that is configured to register an absence ~~or~~ of a weight of an object in a predefined location.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22 wherein the method further comprises re-locking the locking mechanism, and automatically locking out all other entities until the wireless tracking system has accounted for all remaining objects in the controlled-access location.

31. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 22 further comprising automatically associating the movement and/or status change of the objects with the identity of the entity, wherein data pertaining to the association and corresponding movement

and/or status change of the objects is transmitted to a server through one or more of a wireless interface, or a network interface, or a telephone interface.

32. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 31 wherein the method further comprises allowing access to information in the server regarding the movement of the objects associated with the identity of the entity through one or more client computers coupled to the server through a network.

33. (Original) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 32 wherein the network comprises the Internet.

34. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 31 wherein the server is configured to automatically notify a user via one or more of a wireless interface, a network interface, or a telephone interface regarding an event corresponding to the movement and/or status change of the objects.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Original) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 34 wherein objects are automatically replenished or returned as a result of the notification.

37. (Original) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 34 wherein a party is automatically billed as a result of the notification.

38. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory coupled to the processing unit; and

a process executed from the memory causing the processing unit to (i)

automatically associate an identity of an entity with movement and/or status changes of objects to/from/within a controlled space, and to (ii) monitor the location and movement of the entity and

objects within the controlled space via a wireless tracking system coupled to the computer system, and (iii) associate the identity of the entity with the movement or status changes of the objects according to information which is entered into the computer system by the entity using an input device coupled to the computer system.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 38 wherein the process further causes the processing unit to transmit information regarding the association of the movement or status changes of objects to/from/within controlled space with the identity of the entity to a server coupled to the computer system.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the server automatically decrements or increments inventory levels or changes the status of objects in response to data transmitted to the server.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the server automatically correlates received information pertaining to the movement or status changes of objects with received associated identity information corresponding to the entity responsible for the movements or status changes of the objects.

44. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein an access code is automatically generated as a result of the notification.

45. (New) A method, comprising:

automatically associating, using a computer system communicatively coupled to a wireless tracking system configured to monitor locations and movements of an entity and objects within a controlled space, identity information regarding the entity with status information regarding additions, removals, returns, defective status, or movements of the objects

to/from/within the controlled space; and

transmitting the status information and the associated identity information to a server communicatively coupled to the computer system and configured to automatically notify a user of the status of the objects, wherein an item is automatically returned or picked up as a result of such notification.

46. (New) A method, comprising:

automatically associating, using a computer system communicatively coupled to a wireless tracking system configured to monitor locations and movements of an entity and objects within a controlled space, identity information regarding the entity with status information regarding additions, removals, returns, defective status, or movements of the objects to/from/within the controlled space; and

transmitting the status information and the associated identity information to a server communicatively coupled to the computer system and configured to automatically notify a user of the status of the objects, wherein an access code for the controlled space is automatically generated as a result of such notification.

47. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the entity is identified by a controller associated with the controlled space, the controller being configured to unlock a locking mechanism to allow the entity to have access to the controlled space provided the entity is authorized to do so.

48. (New) The method of claim 46 further comprising notifying the user of the addition, removal, return, defective status, or movement of the objects.

49. (New) The method of claim 48 further comprising notifying the user of whether or not the addition, removal, return, defective status, or movement of the objects is authorized or not.

50. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein authorization is determined according to the identity information.

51. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the wireless tracking system includes at least one tag affixed to one or more of the objects and the entity, each tag configured to communicate via a wireless link with the wireless tracking system.

52. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the wireless tracking system includes barcode labels affixed to one or more of the objects.

53. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the wireless tracking system includes video cameras monitoring the controlled space.

54. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the wireless tracking system includes one or more mechanical devices, including at least one device that registers an absence of a weight of an object in a predefined location.

55. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the addition, removal, return, defective status, or movement of the objects to/from/within the controlled space is entered into the computer system by the entity using an input device.

56. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the server is communicatively coupled to the computer system via one of a wireless communication link, or a network communication link.

57. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein a user accesses information regarding the addition, removal, return, defective status, or movements or of objects to/from/within the controlled space associated with the identity information in the server through one or more client computers communicatively coupled to the server through a network.

58. (New) The method of claim 57 wherein the network comprises the Internet.

59. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the notification is transmitted to the user via a wireless communication link, or a network communication link.

60. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein objects are automatically replenished as a result of the notification.

61. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein a party is automatically billed as a result of the notification.

62. (New) A method, comprising monitoring, using a wireless tracking system communicatively coupled to a computer system, locations and movements of an entity and objects within a controlled space; and automatically associating, using the computer system, identity information regarding the entity with status information regarding additions, removals, returns, defective status, or movements of the objects to/from/within the controlled space, which status information is entered into the computer system by the entity using an input device.

63. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein the entity is identified by a controller associated with the controlled space, the controller being configured to unlock a locking mechanism to allow the entity to have access to the controlled space provided the entity is authorized to do so.

64. (New) The method of claim 62 further comprising notifying the user of the addition, removal, return, defective status, or movement of the objects.

65. (New) The method of claim 64 further comprising notifying the user of whether or not the addition, removal, return, defective status, or movement of the objects is authorized or not.

66. (New) The method of claim 65 wherein authorization is determined according to the identity information.

67. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein the wireless tracking system includes at least one tag affixed to one or more of the objects and the entity, each tag configured to communicate via a wireless link with the wireless tracking system.

68. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein the wireless tracking system includes barcode labels affixed to one or more of the objects.

69. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein the wireless tracking system includes video cameras monitoring the controlled space.

70. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein the wireless tracking system includes one or more mechanical devices, including at least one device that registers an absence of a weight of an object in a predefined location.

71. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein the server is communicatively coupled to the computer system via one of a wireless communication link, or a network communication link.

72. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein a user accesses information regarding the addition, removal, return, defective status, or movements or of objects to/from/within the controlled space associated with the identity information in the server through one or more client computers communicatively coupled to the server through a network.

73. (New) The method of claim 72 wherein the network comprises the Internet.

74. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein the notification is transmitted to the user via a wireless communication link, or a network communication link.

75. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein objects are automatically replenished as a result of the notification.

76. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein a party is automatically billed as a result of the notification.